

**Texas Master Gardener Association
GRAPHIC PRESENTATION AWARD**

Association Membership/Size: Medium
(Small, Medium, or Large)

Date: Jan 20, 2006

County: Hood
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Graphic Presentation Title: **Composting Made Easy**

Brief Description of Graphic Presentation: (150 words or less)

This thirty-minute educational Power Point presentation, **Composting Made Easy**, was developed for Hood County Master Gardeners (HCMG) and Hood County residents:

- To encourage awareness of the benefits and ease of including composting in gardening practices
- To create an awareness of environmental problems associated with needless waste
- To become aware of how most waste can be turned into a valuable soil amendment, that, when added to soil, improves the environment and gardens.

An animated, light-hearted approach was used in the educational graphic presentation. The program presented the following:

- Step-by-step, how waste has an impact on the environment.
- Materials used for composting,
- Instructions for building a compost pile
- How to utilize compost in gardening and landscaping.

Special effects were used to reinforce the educational aspects of the presentation. Viewing the presentation helps gardeners understand how composting creates a more productive, healthy environment.

Wanda Riley

Signature of person submitting the nomination

Marty Vahlenkamp

Signature of County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Please answer the following questions as they relate to the entry for the Award Year. **Do not exceed two (2) pages of questionnaire.**

I. Planning and Production (300 Points)

1. Describe the process for determining a clientele need for the graphic presentation.

The Extension office fields a large number of calls from residents of the county asking for gardening and landscape advice. In addition to these calls, the Extension agent is frequently asked to provide speakers for local civic and garden clubs. Numerous requests for composting information had been received by the Extension agent. The presentation was developed to meet this need.

2. What is the objective of the graphic presentation?

The objective in developing the easy-to-understand presentation, **Composting Made Easy**, was to produce an enjoyable, educational visual presentation for residents of Hood County and surrounding counties so they can:

- Realize the importance of recycling and composting.
- Understand the benefits and ease of including composting in gardening practices
- Use waste products in a useful way
- Create an awareness of environmental problems associated with needless waste
- Become aware of how most waste can be turned into a valuable soil amendment, that, when added to soil, improves the environment and gardens.

3. Was the graphic presentation jointly sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension and/or other organization? If yes, describe.

Yes. The Texas Cooperative Extension and the Master Composters of Texas helped in the development of this particular program through suggestions for the program and resources information.

4. How many Master Gardeners were involved in developing the graphic presentation?

One Master Gardener developed the graphic presentation with many of our other Master Gardeners contributing information that was useful to the development of this educational presentation.

5. Describe the roles Master Gardeners served in developing the graphic presentation (i.e., author, editor, artist, software operator - no names of Master Gardeners should be mentioned).

The author researched the subject by using Rodale Book on Composting, Master Composter Handbook, Texas A&M recommended websites, and talking with fellow Master Gardeners about their personal experiences in composting. The editor offered suggestions and corrections during the development of the presentation. The artist and software operator made use of high visual impacting images to reinforce and complement the educational messages well as to ensure the images maintained high impact and resolution when projected.

6. What graphic medium, software, or techniques was used to produce the presentation?

Microsoft Office Power Point 2003 was used to develop this presentation. Internet clip-art, sounds and graphics were also incorporated into the presentation.

7. How many Master Gardener volunteer hours were contributed in developing the graphic presentation?

150 hours

8. Was Extension personnel or others involved in developing the graphic presentation? If yes, how?

Yes. Questions received by the Extension office dealing with composting led to the decision to develop this educational visual arts presentation. The Extension agent and his secretary assisted in providing handout copies for the presentations. The Extension office also provides the audio-visual equipment for many of the presentations.

9. How was the accuracy of the information in the graphic presentation assured/ensured?

Texas A&M recommended references and websites were primary sources of information used in the development of the graphic presentation. The developer received specialist training to become a Master Composter and as such had up to date, accurate information on the material contained in the presentation.

10. Were copies of the graphic presentation distributed? If so, how many were distributed and how?

Yes. Several copies were made for the Speakers Bureau, County Library and the Extension office. A copy was given to a Master Gardener to be used in her classroom at a local school. The Rio Brazos Master Naturalists and two newly-established local nature walk/parks were given copies for their educational programs.

11. How was the graphic presentation used to educate clientele?

Several local garden clubs have viewed this educational presentation and had an opportunity to ask questions associated with composting practices. HCMGs and visitors viewed and discussed the presentation in a monthly educational session. The presentation was also used in a local school classroom for educational purposes.

12. If appropriate, how many Master Gardeners have presented the graphic presentation?

Two Master Gardeners have presented **Composting Made Easy**.

13. How many people have seen the graphic presentation?

This presentation has been shown to over 100 gardeners and approximately 80 elementary and high school students.

14. How was the development and production of the graphic presentation funded?

The only expense in the development and production of the presentation was the production of handouts, which was funded by the Extension office.

15. Describe any plans to revise, expand, or redistribute the graphic presentation? How would this be funded?

Presently there are no plans to revise or expand this presentation. Periodic future presentations are anticipated and the Extension Office will provide paper handouts. Currently copies of this presentation are available through the Hood County Master Gardeners and/or the Hood County Extension Office for any making a request.

16. Describe any evaluation process for the graphic presentation and/or impact of the presentation on meeting its intended objective?

At the end of each presentation, the Master Gardener speaker asked the audience if the information was helpful and answered any questions. Handouts on the presentation are also made available. The large number of handouts and questions has shown a great interest in this topic.

17. In addition to the above comments, describe any other involvement the Master Gardener organization had in developing the graphic presentation?

Our current Master Gardener group lists all presentations that are available through our Speakers Bureau on our website. Several members offered their expertise in writing, research, and the collecting materials. Our Extension Agent's expertise in photography and computer projects was also helpful. Several HCMGs offered their expertise in writing, research, and collection of related materials for the presentation. The Extension Agent's expertise in photography and computer projects was also utilized.

18. Has this graphic presentation won any previous TMGA awards? If yes, explain the changes that were made to this presentation.

No. This program has never been entered for any awards.

II. Graphic Presentation Award. (700 Points)

These points are attributed to will be given to the Graphic Presentation itself compared to all entries received in this category.